THE GENESEE FARMER.

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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1835.

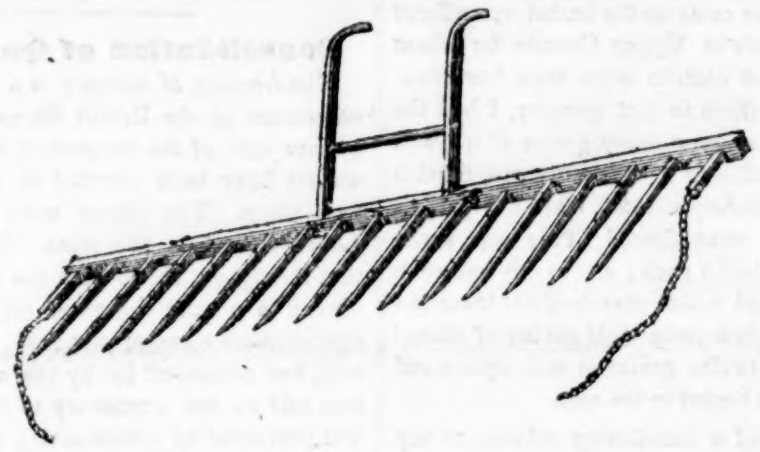
The Roller.

This valuable, but too often neglected instrument, is of very simple construction. The chief requisite is a large wooden cylinder, to serve as the *roller*, of such size and weight as to be drawn by a yoke of oxen. Rollers are sometimes made of stone, but generally of the heaviest wood; *but they are far better when made of the lightest wood which can be obtained.* For in this case they may be made of greater diameter when of the same length and weight, which gives them the very decided advantage of being much more easily drawn, as they mount obstructions with ease, while one of less diameter is greatly impeded or nearly stopped by them. A length of six feet, and a diameter, when made of light wood, of from thirty-two to thirty-six inches, are proper dimensions of a roller for ordinary purposes, when drawn by one yoke of oxen; where however it is desired to do the work very thoroughly, it must be of less length and greater diameter. Into the center of each end are driven two gudgeons of iron about an inch in diameter. The frame consists of two pieces before the roller and one behind, connected at their ends to one on each side in which the gudgeons turn. A tongue is secured to the two forward pieces of the frame, with bracing chains to prevent strain in turning. No iron is necessary in the construction of this instrument except the chains and gudgeons.

There are other modes of constructing rollers, which are in some respects more convenient, but much more complex and expensive.

A box for giving it additional weight, or for gathering stones, may be placed over the roller, thus making it serve at once as a cart and a roller.

This instrument is very useful in smoothing the surface of land laid down in grass for hay, causing the grass at the same time to *stool* and grow thicker, by pressing the lateral shoots into the earth; in rolling young clover late in autumn to prevent its being thrown out by frost; in pressing the roots of wheat again into the soil after it has been thrown out; in rendering light and spongy soils more compact after seed is sown; in breaking and mashing down large clods where stiff soils have been ploughed in a dry season, and which harrows cannot break; and it is eminently useful in flattening and pressing down recently ploughed green sward, previously to the application of the harrow, rendering the sod far less liable to be turned up to the surface, and more completely burying the grass;



The Common Horse Rake.

The horse rake is composed of a piece of scantling three inches square and about ten feet long, into which from fifteen to twenty teeth, made of strong white ash or other equally tough wood, are inserted horizontally. The teeth should be nearly two feet long, and one inch by one and three quarters square at the place of their insertion, tapering gradually on the under side so as to turn up a little at the point to prevent their running into the ground. Two handles, similar to those represented in the figure, are also to be inserted into the head near the middle. The two outer teeth are to be cut off to about one third of their length, and to the ends of these, the draught chains (or ropes) are to be attached. These chains are to be fastend at the other end to the horse's collar. The distance of the horse from the rake should be such as to allow room for the hay to gather; observation will soon enable any one to determine this.

When in operation, the teeth run along flat upon the ground under the hay, (instead of standing perpendicularly to the ground as in the common hand rake,) and when it is full, it must be stopped, and the man who holds it pushes the handles forward so as to bring the teeth in an upright position and thus empties the hay; he then lifts it over the hay thus emptied, and sets it in beyond it; and so on till it is again filled. When one strip is thus raked across on one side of the meadow, the horse is turned about, and another strip raked in the same manner by the side of the first, emptying the hay at the ends of the heaps last raked up, so that in this way winrows are formed. The only skill required in using this instrument consists in keeping the points of the teeth so low as to gather the hay clean, at the same time not so much so as to cause them to run into the earth. Where stones occur, by pressing down the handles, the points of the teeth will rise, and the rake pass over freely.

This rake is not only useful in raking, but also in gathering the hay into heaps for drawing; and where it is stacked in the same field, it may be gathered and drawn directly by means of the rake to the place of deposit at one operation. Where the hay has lain thickly on the ground, one man with a horse has raked and drawn faster than a strong active man could pitch upon a low stack. This rake is also useful in gathering the scattered grain on stubble ground.

It may be used to great advantage on all meadows of ordinary smoothness, and even on such as are quite rough; where however stumps and hillocks are abundant it would perhaps be more advantageous to employ one of less length and with shorter teeth.

The price of the common horse rake is about two dollars.

☞We shall publish a description of the Patent Revolving Horse Rake, as soon as the engraver completes the cut

The Importance of Clean Seed-WHEAT.

We have had two letters on hand for some time containing remarks on this subject; and our unwillingness to disturb the quiet which had so comfortably set in after a long controversy, is our only apology for having detained them so long from our readers. We think however, that the interests of Agriculture demand their publication. We are satisfied that since that discussion, many farmers have become much more particular to sow clean seed; and though all may not be entirely convinced that wheat will not under any circumstances turn into chess, yet we hope there are no advocates of this doctrine remaining, who believe that its seed will not grow. It is to this latter division of the question that we invite the most serious attention. We assure our readers that the greatest reliance may be placed on the following statements; and if one-fifth, or even one-tenth of a crop may be saved in this manner, will not the benefit pay for all the care and labor many times over? If this management is successful in clearing fields from chess in one district, why will it not be equally successful in another district? Such facts are entitled to great weight.

FIRST EXTRACT. "I am well acquainted with the kind of seed-wheat that many farmers call *clean* and *nice*. * * * I *know* that I sow clean seed, and I know that *I never have any chess in my wheat-fields.* Many of my neighbors sow impure seed to my certain knowledge, and the consequence is, they reap as they sow."

SECOND EXTRACT. "Last fall I procured my seed wheat from a neighbor, who assured me that it was entirely clean with the exception of a little chess which he asserted was a matter of small moment, because he knew that the *best* wheat would produce it. To this opinion I demurred;

but as it was not likely that I should obtain any good seed without some mixture of foreign ingredients, after a slight examination I concluded to sow it. Pondering upon the fact however, that a premium of three cents on the bushel was offered at St. Catharine's in Upper Canada for wheat which should not contain more than *two thousand* grains of chess in that quantity, I had the curiosity to know how many grains of it I was sowing. Accordingly I took a tin cup, filled it even full, and carefully counted, when *thirty-three* grains of chess were found! This cup seven times full made half a peck; and at this rate each bushel of my seed wheat contained *one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight* grains of chess! being eleven or twelve grains to each square rod when we sow a bushel to the acre.

"This afforded a satisfactory solution to my mind of the manner in which wheat produces chess, for apparently this seed contained only a few grains. But I did not stop here. Determined to prevent the growth of so many weeds in my field, I took the wheat riddle from the fanning mill, fitted in a board of only half its width, and passed the seed wheat over it two or three times. I then counted a cupful, and found only *one* grain of chess among it. I was not aware that seed-wheat could be so readily cleared of such trash, before I tried the experiment; and I am resolved to sow clean seed in future.

"There were two or three hundred bushels of seed-wheat sold from the same lot, and I presume it was all sown for clean seed!"

Confining ourselves strictly within the limits of our caption, we copy a paragraph from a letter published in the American Farmer, and written by Dr. *Rufus M'Intyre*, late a representative in Congress from the State of Maine. He says "A gentleman who lives in another part of Maine, where wheat is more largely cultivated than where I live,—informs me that many years ago chess was known there and was very troublesome to their wheat; and that *they got rid of it entirely by cleaning their seed* in sieves and shovels made for that purpose. He says that he has not *seen* nor *heard* any complaint of it for *nearly twenty years*. He is a grower of wheat himself, and implicit confidence may be reposed in his statements."

Some months after the date of this letter Dr. *M'Intyre* wrote again to the Editor of the American Farmer enclosing a specimen of chess; asking if that was the genuine plant? for so little was it known in the State of Maine that he was in doubt. He says "I found it in the yard about my house, among some orchard grass I sowed there the spring before last, the seed of which I procured in Boston; and which I presume was raised at the south, as it is rarely seen at the north, and but recently, and in small quantities. *If this be chess*, I would inquire if it usually heads the first year?

"I found but few heads. No wheat ever to my knowledge grew where this sprung up, nor is there any within fifty rods of it. *The plant I never saw before*, and I only conjecture it is chess. *My neighbors have never noticed such before.* Hence I conclude it came with the seed of the orchard grass.

"P. S. Some of my neighbors say that they have sometimes had with their flax, a weed called by some *cheat*, somewhat resembling this, but quite as much resembling what we call *dog-grass*, or *witch-grass. They easily get rid of it by cleaning their seed.*"

Consolidation of Quicksilver.

The freezing of mercury is a very uncommon occurrence in the United States, yet during the intense cold of the forepart of January two instances have been reported in which this event took place. The places were Schoharie and Lebanon, both in this state. It is remarkable, that throughout the country the thermometer indicated a greater degree of cold in the valleys than in more elevated situations, a fact very unusual, but accounted for by the well known law that cold air has a tendency to descend, and unless prevented by counteracting causes is sure to do so. The principal counteracting cause is found in the currents of air which by their motion prevent this effect from taking place. In the cold weather of January this cause did not exist, as the air was nearly motionless the whole time, and, with the unusual clearness of the upper air, was a frequent subject of remark. Professor Pallas has described the consolidation of quicksilver in Siberia, and we copy the account for the Farmer, as it shows that the state of the atmosphere there, much resembled the condition of ours in this region last winter, as well as to give an idea of the manner in which the phenomenon takes place.

On the morning of the sixth of December, Pallas found the mercury of his thermometer frozen, "a thing," says he, "which had never before happened during the whole eight years I had made use of this instrument. I then conveyed it from the gallery where it was kept into an apartment moderately warmed by a stove. Here the column of mercury, which had been condensed in the tube, immediately sunk into the bulb, while that in the bulb resumed its activity in half a minute. I repeated this experiment several times with the same result. In order to follow the progress of the experiment, I gently warmed the bulb with my fingers, and distinctly observed that the condensed and frozen columns of mercury offered considerable resistance before they gave way. At the same time I exposed a quarter of a pound of mercury to the air in a saucer. This mercury had previously been well washed in vinegar, and cleansed from impurities. In an hour the edges of the surface were frozen, and a few minutes after the whole was condensed into a soft mass exactly resembling pewter. This mass of frozen mercury was as pliable as lead, but if bent suddenly would break more easily than pewter, and when flattened into sheets appeared somewhat knotty. I tried to beat it out with a hammer, but the mercury fell from it in drops, (owing probably to the caloric disengaged by the percussion.) The same thing took place when I touched this mass with the tip of my finger, which was instantly benumbed from the simple contact. In a moderately warm room it melted like wax placed over a fire; the drops separated from the surface which melted very gradually." "*The air was still, and at the same time condensed as it were; so that although the sky was exceedingly clear, the sun appeared as if beheld through a cloud.*" It would be difficult to describe in fewer words the exact appearance of the atmosphere during the intense cold of January, than has here been done by Professor Pallas, from which we should infer that a low temperature, and a similar state of the sky, were intimately if not inseparably connected. G.

The Williamson Apple.

BY W. W. B.

Mr. Tucker—As the season for grafting is at hand, I send you a few scions of a choice variety of apple, which deserves to be better known and more extensively cultivated, which you may dispose of as you think proper, to your horticultural friends. It is known in this part of the country by the name of the *Land Office Apple*, from the fact of the original tree growing in a small orchard attached to the Land Office of the Poultney estate at Bath. The fruit of this orchard was brought into the country some thirty years ago by Colonel Williamson, the then agent of the Poultney estate, but where it was obtained is not known. It was most probably grafted fruit. This apple, as a winter apple, stands higher here than any other which is cultivated in this vicinity. It is of good size, remarkably fair, of a light green color on one side, and of a redish cast on the other,—a little flat shaped, brittle and tender, abounding in juice, of a pleasant flavor, the skin very thin; but one of its greatest excellencies is its quality of keeping a very long time, even to July, and retaining its freshness and juiciness to the last; and not only so, unlike many other kinds of winter apples celebrated for their *keeping* property, this apple is in a fit state for eating soon after it is gathered in the fall. The cider made from it is also of a *superior* quality, as I am informed by Mr. M'Cay, the Land Office Agent. As an eating apple, its superiority was tested by a number of gentlemen at Geneva at the house of Joseph Fellows, Esq. by the side of several of the choicest kinds of grafted apples, and was pronounced by them all to be decidedly the *best*. If it is a grafted fruit, (and it most probably is,) I should be happy to know its proper name. Till this is known, I propose that it be called the *Williamson Apple*, in honor of the gentleman who introduced it into this part of the country, and who spared no pains, at a very early day, to promote whatever would add to the comfort and prosperity of the settlers.

Yours, &c. W. W. B.

Hammondsport, April 10, 1835.

☞ We shall be happy to distribute the Grafts which accompanied the above, to such of our subscribers as may send for them.

New American Orchardist.

Mr. *Kenrick* informs us that he has now in press a second edition of this work, which will be published in a few weeks. This edition will be greatly enlarged, and improved, the additions extending to almost every page, besides several new chapters. It will contain about 400 pages, 12 mo. executed in good style—price $1,00.

To Correspondents.

To make room for the interesting communication of our old friend *Ulmus*, several favors are necessarily laid over till next week.

Ashes and Gypsum---Lime.

The following is from a communication in the Farmers' Register:

A mixture of drawn ashes with plaster when sown, renders the operation less distressing to the laborers, whose eyes are apt to be incommoded by the flying of it. It also enables them to strew it more equally, regardless of the wind, which often interrupts the operation, when sown alone. The quantity used will depend mostly on the quantity at command; for persons having more than will afford an equal portion for the plaster, it is usual to mix half and half, and to sow about a bushel of the compound to the acre, or more, as the farmer may choose, depending on the situation of his land, whether it has been plastered before, or not, &c. With the plaster and ashes may also be mixed clover, or other grass seeds, in any proportion desired, when the whole operation can be performed at the same time.

The beneficial effect of lime as a manure is so generally admitted, that to deny its operation in any instance, is hazarding the charge of skepticism; nevertheless, there are cases in which the zealous farmer is sadly disappointed in the result. Whether it be owing to the soil in a limestone region of country, being already saturated with lime, so as to effervesce strongly with acids, or to some deleterious quality of it, as magnesia, &c., the result is often different from the generally received opinion. Lime should therefore be used experimentally: at first in small quantities, to see what effect it has, and increased afterwards as the result indicates it should be. It is unnecessary as an adjunct to putrescent manures, in the first instance, whose softer parts will easily decompose without; but should it not be used as an alternate manuring to succeeding crops, to dissolve the coarse parts of vegetables, which will not easily dissolve of themselves?

Rearing Calves.

Extract of a communication from Mr. Thomas Midford, Hyde-Park, in the Cultivator:

E. Holbrook, Esq. can now produce from twenty to thirty calves, (raised with little expense,) equal for *age, size, condition*, and fine *symmetry*, to any in the country, say pure *Devon*, a cross with *Devon* and *Durham* and *Devon* and *Alderney*, some of which Mr. Holbrook intends to send to Albany next fall for sale, when I shall feel honored by a personal introduction by Mr. Holbrook.

When the cow has dropped its calf we allow it to suck its mother about 7 or 9 days, always careful to milk the cow during the time the calf is sucking, to draw off the whole of her milk during this period, in order to promote a large soft fine bag during the summer for the dairy use; at the end of this time the milk comes away freely, of a good color and quality; the calf is then taken from the cow, and with the finger learned to drink, allowing it about four quarts of skimmed milk night and morning. The milk should stand about 12 hours before it is skimmed, increasing till it is 6 weeks old, from then till 10 weeks old, about 12 quarts per day; when 10 weeks old diminish the milk for 2 or 3 weeks, and increase then from 12 to 14 weeks. During this period, hay must be placed between split sticks, to invite them to eat, and which very soon gives them what is termed the cud; likewise place small troughs within their reach, containing wheat shorts, turmeric, powdered yellow rosin and salt—the turmeric possessing in a moderate degree an aromatic stimulant; the yellow rosin a weak diuretic; their combination prevents diseases to which calves are subject, swelled legs, yellows, &c.

I must remark, the skimmed milk given to calves should be boiled, and stand till it cools to the temperature of milk from the cow; it is much better boiled than warm only. Cold milk will cause a calf to purge. If this is the case, put three spoonfuls of rennet into the milk, and it will stop it. If bound, a little pork broth will loosen it. When turned out to pasture they must be provided with an open dry shed, containing hay, &c. to which they will retire for shelter from storms, the powerful rays of the sun, or for comforts, which nature mysteriously dictates to animals. Symmetry being of great importance, to obtain this we do not allow them to struggle through the first winter, without care or attention; but provide them with a comfortable dry shed, allowing plenty of good straw for bedding—regularly feeding them with good hay, ruta baga, or small potatoes, with plenty of water at libertum. We allow to ten calves per day, one and a half bushels of ruta baga, or small potatoes, smashed with a pounder immediately before feeding them, in order that they may not enter their stomach in a frozen state, placing as before, within their reach, tumeric, rosin, &c. of which they will take no more than nature requires. In the summer we turn them out on rough land; the winter followimg they require only ordinary care.

From the Wilmington Democrat.

Difference of Weight and Value

IN PORK AND BACON.

We are disposed to think that practical knowledge on this subject would be highly acceptable to every intelligent farmer, especially when such knowledge is derived from a source entitled to implicit confidence. Dr. Wilson, of this county, from whom we obtained the subject matter of this article, assured us that he last season personally attended the weighing, salting, &c. of the hogs referred to below; and we have no doubt that similar experiments by other farmers will produce like results.

The following is the weight of four tolerably fat hogs about eighteen months old, after they were killed and well cleaned—

The 1st hog weighed 135 pounds.
2nd.....140
3rd.....142
4th.....154

Total weight,.....571 pounds.

Hams of the four hogs weighed 128 pounds.
Shoulders,.....147
Middlings,.....148

423 pounds.

Heads, feet, back bones, and leaf fat, 148 pounds.

The hams, shoulders, and middlings were salted, and in four weeks and three or four days again weighed:

Hams,.....125 pounds.
Shoulders,.....143
Middlings,.....143

411 pounds.—Loss 12 lbs.

They were next well washed, hung up, and smoked two months and two weeks, and again weighed, after removing the adhering ashes.

Hams,.....110 pounds.
Shoulders,.....126
Middlings,.....126

362 lbs.—Additional loss 49 lbs.

So the 571 pounds of pork gave 362 pounds of bacon. Is it more profitable then to sell pork or make bacon of it? Suppose, for example, the Doctor had sold his pork at five dollars per hundred pounds.

571 lbs. at $5 per 100 lbs.—$28,55.

And suppose a speculator had bought, cured, and sold it, say at only 10 cents per pound.

This shows a difference in favor of making bacon, amounting to $7,65 from 571 lbs of pork. Perhaps you'll say, "there's the expense of salting, smoking, interest, &c. which you would not have taken into the account." What! have you already forgot that we also omitted to say any thing about the heads, feet, back bones, and leaf fat, which weighed 148 pounds? And were not these amply sufficient to defray all the expenses attending the curing of the bacon? Another may hint that the publishing of such *experiments* will bring the consumers about our ears. Don't let them be alarmed—there's no *occasion*. Rather let them consult the matter, and determine whether it would not always be to their advantage to purchase a supply of pork at Christmas to furnish a sufficiency of bacon throughout the ensuing year. Our farmers are generally too much prejudiced against what is called book farming, to profit by by newspaper publications. We frequently quote weightier matters under agricultural heads, but they are usually passed over in such a manner that we are under no apprehensions that this article will induce any farmer to believe and act as though *selling his pork were not saving his bacon.*

Preparing Greensward.

The following is a part of a letter from Horace Wilder, of North Dixmont, to the editor of the Maine Farmer. The success of the practice is encouraging.

In the spring of 1834, I prepared 70 rods of ground in the following manner:—The ground had been well laid down and mowed seven years. About twenty loads of manure, mostly from the barn windows, were carried and spread on the grass. The 22d of May, the ground was ploughed about six inches deep, and turned over flat; it was then rolled with a heay roller till it had the appearance of an onion bed. Five loads of a mixture of hay manure, chip manure, and leached ashes, were then spread evenly over the surface and harrowed lengthwise of the furrows. It was planted with corn, potatoes, ruta baga and white beans, and produced as follows:—Corn, 12 bushels; potatoes, 40 bushels; turneps, 50 bushels; beans, 1 bushel. I have not stirred the ground since the crop was taken off—choosing that the manure should remain covered till the next spring, when I intend to apply a dressing of fresh manure, and plough it and plant it with corn. I consider the above method of preparing green sward for planting, as far preferable to the usual practice of breaking up in the fall, and cross-ploughing in the spring. Ground that is broken up in the fall does not get rotted by the next spring—it is then harrowed and cross-ploughed and harrowed again; by this time the sods are nearly all upon the top and exposed to the hot drying sun, where they are tumbled about by the horse-plough and the hoe through the whole summer, and afford no nourishment to the crop; but by letting the land lie till you are ready to plant, the grass gets a good start, and that and the manure being turned under together, and closely compacted by the roller, is preserved from the action of the sun and rains, ferments quickly, and affords a beautiful supply of food for the crop.

A correspondent recommends the rubbing of the limbs of the plum with soft soap, to prevent the black canker. He says he has tried it with success.—*Cultivator.*

List of Payments

For the Farmer from April 2, to April 16, 1835.

William Plocker, vols. 4, 5 and 6.
Abner Wright, Jr., to No. 10, Vol. 6.

For the Fifth Volume.

Philo St. John.	Samuel Trimble.
D. S. Earl.	Geo. W. Sutton, 4&5.
T. J. Field, 4 & 5.	James Houghton.
Sam'l Chapin, 4 & 5.	Cyrenus Smalley.
Westel W. Powell.	R. W. Pratt.
John Timmerman.	Thomas Boyd.
Elijah C. Adams.	Abraham Deuel.
Wm. T. Miller, 4&5.	Wm. Ludlow, 4 & 5.
Warren Granger.	Talmadge Cherry.

John Hatmaker.

For the Fourth Volume.

R. H. Rose.	Allen A. Hall.
James Granger.	Benjamin Litton.

To July 1, 1835.

John Morris.	George Hosmer.
John D. Taylor.	B. Fairman.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A Chapter on Neat Cattle.

BY ULMUS.

Our Native Stock, Devons, Short Horns, &c. &c.

In vol. 3, page 404, of the Genesee Farmer, I expressed my views generally upon the two important foreign kinds of cattle above mentioned, intending at the time to give my future views on the subject, should occasion permit. Sufficient experience to warrant a positive expression of opinion *in all particulars*, of so important a branch of our husbandry, I cannot claim; yet a close observation for some length of time of the different breeds of cattle and their treatment, has led me to conclusions sufficient to govern my own stock operations. Having, during a few years past, made frequent tours through this and the neighboring states, in which are usually reared the best cattle of our country, and having closely examined many excellent herds, I could not but remark the great disparity between different stocks of cattle of the common kinds, as well as in those of foreign breeds; and also to observe, most of all, the lamentable deficiency of taste, judgment, discrimination and management, of a great majority of the farmers in relation to most of their domestic animals.

However, we must take the stock of the country as it is, judge of it as managed by good masters, and then draw our conclusions from the results of such experience as is offered.

In relation to our improvement in neat stock, it is well known that many of our best and most sagacious breeders have advocated the different breeds of foreign animals as being the best for our purposes; while others have maintained that as good or better cattle could be raised from our native stock. The advocates of foreign cattle also differ in their estimation of the Short Horn and Devon breeds, the two principal kinds which have been brought into notice. And on these three points they are at issue. My remarks are upon them all.

First, then, of the common cattle of the county:

For them I am disposed to allow great credit, for until within a few years we have scarcely known any other, and among them may be selected most admirable specimens of beauty, strength, hardihood, size and utility; in fact, almost all the combinations of excellence natural to the animal. Yet these instances are so remarkably rare that they constitute extraordinary exceptions to the usual character of the race. Many of their advocates have expressed a strong belief that they may be so improved and bred as to constitute a better stock than any we have yet had. True, that long experience and the labors of many years, with great attendant expense, may improve them to a very great degree of perfection. But will they *then* be the common breed of cattle? And can they then be afforded at ordinary prices? Every one will readily respond in the negative, for the very simple reason that they were in the first place selected for possessing certain prominent and extraordinary characteristics; and by careful breeding and judicious crossing, their good qualities were perpetuated, while the bad ones, if they had any, were by the same process *bred out*, and by a long line of descent the good points became inherent in these animals and their stock. This is in fact the true secret of *positive* excellence in *any* breed of cattle over others, and it is for these reasons that they are comparatively high and scarce. Therefore, to obtain a stock of native origin that may be depended on for excellence of quality and perpetuity of goodness, fifty years must elapse, with an immense expenditure of labor, money, skill, and much occasional vexation. So much for an improved breed of the common stock.

Yet I am unwilling to say that numerous excellent selections may not be made for many purposes from among the common cattle, and that either for the dairy, beef, or the yoke, perhaps none better than such selections can be found. Many herds of cattle do exist of first rate quality, and are kept so with extraordinary care and expense on the part of the owners; but such an herd will hardly perpetuate itself in equal excellence without continued exertion, because their various excellencies are not combined in the animal by high or thorough breeding, without which no good quality can be lasting.

Let me ask, then, what is the ordinary breed of cattle of our country? Go with me into yonder pasture, where a drover has just turned in a herd of 300 head, and we will ascertain, as the following dialogue may show:

Q. Well, friend, you have a clever drove of cattle here; where did you find them?

A. Why, yes, a passable herd; I picked them up in different places;—some in the western part of York state; a few along the Pennsylvania line; about sixty I had of an Ohio drover, and a friend of mine sent down a hundred or so, picked up in Vermont, the upper part of New-York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. So upon the whole, I've pretty much of an assortment.

Q. So I perceive; for I observe various colors, shapes and qualities; different breeds I suppose?

A. No—all of the common sort pretty much; perhaps now and then a touch of some English or Dutch critter, when some of them gentlemen farmers got something new; but pretty near all the old fashioned sort.

Q. But there's a fine large red ox—well made, clean horns, smooth built, and an honest countenance. He must be a capital fellow?

A. That he is. And that streaked bug-horned rascal yonder is his mate; both out of one cow, and only a year's difference in their age; but no more alike in looks and temper than a dog and a monkey. The man I bought them of thought 'twas strange that two brothers should be so little alike; but so it is. They are always shifting about their bulls so that you can't depend on any thing.

Q. Very true; but there's a little low brindle cow yonder—she has good points; short legs, long body, straight on the back, light horns, a good eye, deep in the chest, a beautiful clean silky bag, and an excellent loin. She's a valuable animal, eh?

A. To be sure. I bought her for a particular friend, and paid a round price for her; and in order to get her I had to take those two scurvy heifers you see on her right. One is a long-legged, ragged, narrow-shouldered, black beast, that will never be any thing; and the other is as duck-legged as her mother, but her back is hollow, and every leg crooked as a rainbow; and what is strange, one bull sired them both. I can get nothing for them, although their owner told me he had great expectations from them, as their mother was so good. But I find this business of keeping a calf because its mother was good, is all a lottery. There's no telling what they are worth till they are tried.

Q. Where did you get that spotted bull? He looks tolerably. A clean head, tail well set up, broad on the hips, a good leg, and deep chest; on the whole, quite a passable animal.

A. Why, he's father to the two heifers. How the deuce the calves looked like neither mother nor father I can only account for by the story of the man who raised him, who told me this bull come of the meanest cow he had, by a chance bull that broke into his lot; and it was so extraordinary that she should have a decent calf that he determined to save it. So I suppose the two heifers took one after his father and the other after his mother, as some of the *old country* breeders say that cattle often breed back after their grandmothers, or cousins or uncles.

Q. They are merely the common breed, I presume?

A. O yes, nothing more. All bred in York state. Come, walk round the other side.

Q. Well, well! here's a curious creature enough!—high, gaunt, hollow-headed, short thick horns that stick up straight, sickle hammed, low hipped, in-kneed, an outrageous dew-lap, as thin as a shadow, a bag no bigger than a teapot, and at least eight years old; a sooty color too! Where in the name of common sense did that cow come from? Why, you might worship her without idolatry, she's so little like the likeness of any thing ever seen before.

A. That's a fact; and the Lord only knows where she come from. She was in the Ohio drove, and I had to take her with the rest. But there's a queer story about that cow. Them two dun steers yonder, one is a five and the other a four year old, and that three year old neat red heifer, all came from that cow; and that old brindled stag just beyond is father to the whole. To be sure, he has not more than two good points about him, but he was kept by a drunken fellow, and was such a breachy rascal that no fence would hold him, and so every year he broke into the lot where the cow was. At last he became so great a nuisance that the neighbors threatened vengeance, and the owner finally agreed to make a stag of him when the *sign* come right. But he neglected it, and at last one neighbor declared that *sign* or no *sign*, he should be a bull no longer; and faith, he was as good as his word; but in order to pacify the fellow he had to buy the brute, and here he is. I heard, however, he was of quite good stock originally, though you'd hardly think so by any of his qualities. He is the regular *old fashioned* breed.

Q. A ha! here's something that begins to look right—two pair of oxen, five steers, three cows, and a heifer!—fine and small heads, clean taper horns, small muzzle, deep mahogany color, yellow nose, a dun ring round the eye, a full round thigh, and a tail like a drum stick! Where did you get those Devons?

A. True enough; and I had to pay for them too. But I would not have done it only for the

sake of setting out the drove a little. However, I *must* tell you. When we drovers go about the country picking up cattle, either for beef, working oxen, milch cows, or young stock, which we do in all their branches, for some districts of our country depend altogether on getting their stocks from us, we have to take the cattle as we can find them. We *always mean to make it a rule to take the best a farmer has in his yard, and we generally succeed;* for in most cases an extra dollar or two will command almost any thing he has of the stock kind. So we take the best, and leave him the poorest to breed from; and by so serving him every year or two, you may imagine that he is soon nearly ashore in the stock kind; so that after a while he himself becomes a customer to us for a good bull or cow occasionally, which we make him pay roundly for; thus we make money out of him both ways. However, by the time we get one drove together, it's composed of pretty much every thing, rough and smooth, young and old, ringed, streaked and speckled, and we have to look about for something to set out the flock with. But it so happens that there is always a few farmers scattered along our range, who have something a little extra for our purposes; and although they make us pay through the nose pretty roundly, it's for our interest to trade with them. Now the man I bought those red cattle of has an English bull, a real fine one, and I have paid him for several years past from five to fifteen dollars a head extra for his cattle, although they are only part blooded; and I find my account in it, for they give a character to the drove, and when I get home I always have some neighbors who have fancy enough for something fine, to give me a good profit on them. So they help sell the others and bring me a fair price besides. But still, I'm a good deal bothered to deal with those farmers who keep these fine cattle. *They'll never sell me any thing but such as they pick out themselves;* and although they set out my drove, they are in fact only the cullings of the flock they left. They're fanciful fellows, these *breeders*, as they call themselves. Their cattle all look just alike—shape and color must be just so, or away they go—the drover gets them. After all, they make money by it. There's always enough after their cattle faster than they want to sell, and at their own prices, to make their way of raising stock a good business.

Q. Have you ever seen any Short Horns in your travels?

A. What—do you mean the great big Durham cattle?

Q. Yes. They are usually red and white spotted, sometimes clear white, occasionally red roan, but never any other color. Have you some of them, mixed blood or so?

A. Let me think. O, yes—I have six now, which I will show you, and these are good ones too. They are all spotted, and grand colors—pure white and cherry red. They say they are half bloods; but I don't know much about them, for these are different from any I ever had before. I frequently used to buy a kind of coarse, big animal, generally of a dun or streaked color, which they called Durham, or Holderness, or Yorkshire, or Dutch; but they were poor things—tender and bad to drive. There was always a prejudice against their color, and although the people that I bought them of talked about their blood, I never believed any thing of it, for the animals themselves only now and then *proved* any thing. But these I now have are real fine ones; they are shaped alike, they were out of good native cows, and the bull that sired them I saw, and he was as fine a fellow as I ever looked upon. They say he weighed 1600, and was only five years old; and the owner, who by the way is a curious man, said he had his pedigree back to his tenth grandfather; and he showed me several pictures of different animals of the breed in a publication which he called the "The Herd Book," printed in England. Ah! they were the finest I ever met, and he had two or three cows in his yard that looked just like the pictures in the book. In fact, such cattle I never saw before. Why, only cut off their heads and legs, and their carcase would look just like a carpenter's tool chest, it is so square! There's no mistake about such cattle—they will sell any where, color or no color. I only wish we could find more of them. Even quarter bloods are a great improvement, and this talk about red cattle is all a fudge. There is in fact nothing in the color of cattle only fancy. Thirty years experience has well assured me of that. If they are only made and put together right, that is the main chance. The rest will take care of itself.

Q. Good, very good! You appear to have quite correct notions about cattle. Now tell me honestly, could you ever pick up in the course of a season's driving, twenty cows of the *common* breed, that were any thing alike, either in form, limb, construction, or milk as to quantity or quality, so much so, that they looked like one family, or possessing those points which would perpetuate their own good qualities in their descendants?

A. I don't know that I exactly understand you. But if you mean to ask if they will produce stock like themselves, I answer no: because each one is composed of such a medley of blood and crosses, that their calves would probably be of all colors and shapes; for after all, with this old fashioned, or common breed of cattle as they are called, they possess nothing in common but appetite and disposition. They are just no *breed* at all. I have seen thousands of oxen matched in color and size for working, because they looked somewhat alike; but they were neither fit in constitution nor temper to go together; and I know of half a dozen of my neighbors who had excellent family cows, and all raised heifer calves, because the cows were so good, and they wanted to keep the breed; but it was more than probable the heifers when brought to milk turned out totally worthless. To sum the whole matter up, my friend, the breeding of common cattle, judging from my own experience, with any definite object in view of extraordinary good working, beef, or milking properties, except the mere raising of stock for sale, is founded on total uncertainty; and if you want to raise cattle for particular use, go and find what of these improved breeds, as they are called, possess the qualities you wish, and get them at once.

So ends our colloquy with the drover; and such is the language of most experienced common sense men on the subject. And such, I will add, is my own opinion of the matter. I now have charge of about sixty cows, and as many working oxen, picked up during the last fifteen months in this county. Among them are some of the best of their kind, and some of ordinary quality. But they are all of the *common* breed, and yet so little alike are any two of them, either in shape, appearance or color, that I can tell each one apart the moment I can approach near enough to see its face or almost any part of its carcase. They have hardly any positive character in common. Many a yoke of oxen that were purchased for labor, although handsome, fine animals, and considered well matched, we found on trial did not work well together, and they have been in numerous instances mismatched. Near ones were put together—off ones yoked in pairs—brindled and spotted ones matched—and such changes made as equality in temper, strength, speed, and good labor required; and the result has been the accomplishment of much more labor with more ease to the animal and profit to the owner.

Now if our stocks of cattle were well bred, greater uniformity of shape, size, temper, and appearance, would follow, and much usefulness added to the animal. The cows, too, are as unequal in their milking qualities as in their appearance. The quality of their milk is often totally dissimilar—some fifty per cent. better than others. Some with fine silky clean bags and delicate teats; others with a large meaty bag and warty teats, that milk as hard as a suction hose, and then not enough to pay for the trouble of getting it. So it is. A total uncertainty as to what the stock is like to be until tried. Thus, if a lot of calves be raised, even from good cows, it is altogether a chance that half of them at coming in are not worth the cost of raising them.

Some of these cows above mentioned, were in calf to ordinary bulls when I purchased them, and the calves they have dropped are as usual of all descriptions. But we have had several by a thorough bred Short Horn, and others by a high bred Devon bull, and these calves are of each kind alike, possessing decided character. The Durhams handsomely spotted red and white, and about fifty per cent. larger than the Devons, which are plump, snug calves, of a deep red color. Thus it is seen, that the first crop with thorough bred animals gives the color and many of the prominent characteristics, while the deeper crosses confirm the good qualities, and in equal proportion work out the native blood.

In point of hardiness and easiness to keep, there is a wide difference between individual cattle of the native stock. Some will live on half what others do, and perform double the labor. All is variety and uncertainty. Yet I will promptly say to him *who can do no better*, procure the best native stock you can—breed in and in *to the same blood*—and when a new cross is introduced, let it be an animal that combines the most of excellence that can be found, and whose good qualities will be perpetuated in your own stock. In fact, study, think, and read on this matter. To excel in it the breeder must understand it; and nothing is more easy than to do so, if he will only give his attention to the subject.

We have seen by the foregoing remarks, that among what are estimated the "common breed of cattle," exist those of all colors, sizes, shapes, qualities; in short, all things that belong to the

ordinary cattle family. The question may here arise:

Whence are descended the "common cattle of our country?"

This it is hard to determine. Little doubt can exist, however, that they have descended by various and indiscriminate intermixtures of all the foreign cattle originally brought into the United States on their first settlement as British Colonies. Many importations have since been made of tolerable cattle from Europe, but not until within a few years past, of the best and most approved "English Blood Cattle."

Those who are intimate with the breeds of cattle in the British Islands and parts of the neighboring continent, readily distingush in our old settlements traces of the parentage of their neat stock, though by a long line of descent losing most of their native cast, but in occasional instances boldly developing itself by breeding back, as it may be termed, or by the original blood strongly showing itself in the descendant. National preferences among some of our farmers, also tend much to keep partially distinct for a long time particular traits in their cattle. Along the Hudson river, and on Long Island, strong traces of the original Dutch cattle may be seen in the speckled herds which are found there; and throughout New England, thousands of cattle will be observed, strongly showing a descent originally from the Devon, Hereford, and Holderness breeds. Among the Scotch and Irish of Western Pennsylvania exist many animals, and those highly esteemed too, which may claim a relation to the Galloways. Occasional traces of the Long Horns, or Bakewells, may be observed in passing through the country; but unless in those districts where great attention is paid to the raising of stock, but few of approved excellence can be found in the cattle line, and a heterogeneous mass of animals exist, that merely answer the purposes, and bear the name of neat stock, without exhibiting at all of their high value or blood.

Probably the best native cattle are to be found in New England, in Litchfield and Hartford counties in Connecticut, in Berkshire and Worcester counties in Massachusetts, and along the borders of the Connecticut river north of the Connecticut state line. These bear the marks of more breeding and care than any other native cattle which I have seen; and for working oxen are equal, if not superior, to any known. The cows are equally good for milk and the uses of the dairy, and from those regions are made great quantities of excellent beef. Many of the cattle too, from the northern and western counties of New York, and the Western Reserve counties of Ohio, are of the same character, being originally mostly from New England. Their color is principally red, and occasionally a rich brindle or yellow dun, and sometimes white, smoky, or brockled faces, and lined backs. Their yellow noses, and neat upright horns, often show their Devon origin, with Hereford and other mixtures. They are hardy, good sized animals, larger than the English Devons, and are much esteemed by the farmers who rear them. These working cattle are better matched than most others, by the constant pains taken by the breeders; yet all these lack in general the fine finish, figure, points and excellence, of the most approved breeds of British blood cattle, as much as the best of our native horses fall short of the mettle, spirit, and high appearance of the blood horse.

To go into a minute investigation, or inquiry, of what are the principal difficulties which prevent our native cattle from becoming what is requisite to constitute high excellence in this useful animal, would be to enter into a disquisition altogether out of the range of this essay, and to open at once the subject of the anatomical structure and internal formation of the animal, which only those scientifically conversant with it can explain. But it will here suffice, to say to the understanding or inquiring breeder, that in the improved breeds of cattle of the present day, a thorough change in the appearance and economy of the animal has been made, which may be better understood by a reference to the particular breeds under consideration.

The Devons.

These beautiful animals may be said to combine more activity, grace and constitution, than perhaps any cattle known. They have long been highly estimated in some parts of England, where they are thorough bred, and sold at great prices; and the evident traces to be found among the best New England cattle to this blood, gives them high claims to attention. Some years since, they were imported into this country by a few of our enterprising citizens, and sent into various parts of the United States; and from them the blood has been mixed with our native cattle to a considerable extent. I now own several of these animals, descended from the best blood in the country, and estimated as perfectly pure. I have also seen many herds of mixed and full blood Devons belonging to others, who have taken much pains in raising this particular stock. I therefore judge as I have seen them.

These animals have, in my opinion, but two defects; and after fully understanding these, those who wish to improve their native stock must judge what benefit may be derived by introducing among them the Devons. Their excellencies are beauty of form throughout, having handsome spreading horns, an honest, bright, and cheerful countenance, short and thick hair, of a deep bay or shining mahogany color, sprightliness of disposition, active and quick in their movements, great hardiness of constitution, quick feeders, being easily fattened into most excellent beef, and good for labor. Their defects are, inferiority of size, and an absence of deep milking properties. Yet taken as a whole, they are perhaps equal as dairy cows to the average of *common* breed; and taking into view their smaller size, and the less quantity of food they consume, I have little doubt they yield quite as much milk as our native cows. With all their excellencies, however, they do not combine *all* the requisite qualifications desired by our farmers and stock breeders; and for this reason no doubt, although they have always been held at comparatively low rates, they have failed to excite the general attention of our enterprising stock farmers. Among those who rear oxen for the yoke, their want of size is a strong objection—one indeed not to be overcome; and as they cannot usually boast superiority in milking qualities, they have also failed to arrest the attention of the dairymen. To be sure they fatten easily, and are hardy of constitution—of course easily kept. Yet the fattening of an animal is the last thing required of it; and although a most important feature of excellence, will not make up the loss of years of additional labor, or increase in dairy profit, which well selected native animals might produce. Still, however, many herds of native cattle may with evident advantage be improved by the introduction of Devons among them. The descendants of the Devon cross would not indeed increase much, perhaps not at all, in size, but they would acquire a beauty of form and color which would be of lasting value to the stock. I have indeed no doubts on that score, and were only moderate strength for draught required in the oxen, for the main purposes of the farmer, I would most prefer the Devons to *any* native stock of cattle. They are always saleable for ordinary purposes—are compact and solid in their bodies, and with *one* exception, I think they form the finest stock of neat cattle for the northern farmer. Yet from their want of size, and superiority of appearance to our *very best* American cattle, they must always fall infinitely below the

Improved Short Horns.

These celebrated cattle have long been the pride of English breeders, and are in our own country, wherever found, infinitely superior to any other cattle known. They were originally the best breed of cattle known in England, and from a long course of *close and scientific breeding*, have been brought to combine more excellencies than any other breed of cattle in existence. Their superiority consists in their great size, early maturity, extraordinary milking qualities both for quantity and quality, small bone, light offal, great breadth and expansion of carcass, exceeding beauty of form, docility, hardihood of constitution, propensity to fatten, and, in *my* opinion, exceding beauty of color. Qualities, indeed, rare and excellent.

Perhaps no cattle in the world possess so much of individuality and distinctness of character as the *Improved* Durham Short Horns. They have been so scientifically bred—such fine play is given to their lungs, and the whole secretions and animal system in them is so perfect, that they may well boast of their breeding and aristocracy over all other cattle. To one who has never seen an *Improved* Durham Short Horn, it would be difficult to give a just idea of their appearance; yet at first sight the beholder would be strikingly impressed with their infinite superiority over all other cattle which he had seen. I have several of them, most of which I purchased from the superior herd of Francis Rotch, Esq. at the Butternuts.* I have had them sufficiently long to test many of their qualities, and can truly say, they bear out all I have awarded to the Short Horn family. They have run without stabling all winter with the native cattle—have had nothing but ordinary hay for food—and with the same keeping, they are now in perfectly good and better condition than the others; and although I have had no opportunity to know their

* Mr. R., by his great discrimination and unwearied attention to this fine breed of cattle, has possessed himself of some of the best and most thorough bred Short Horn stock in England. A high bred bull and cow which I now have, were from among the best animals ever imported from the herds of Messrs. Wetherell and Whittaker.

qualities as working oxen, and expressed an opinion a year since that they would not make good cattle for the draught, yet I am fully convinced from my knowledge of their general qualities, that they will make strong and docile oxen for laboring purposes. Their geat size and just proportions must render them strong, while their superior docility will cause them to be easily driven and handled. They are not inclined at all to mischief; and while my Devon bull spurns all confinement in a field, and puts all fences at defiance—prostrating every thing in his way by the aid of his elegant horns—the portly Short Horn seems to recognise and respect the will of his master, and evinces no disposition to depart from the enclosure in which he is confined.

Their color has formed a prominent topic of objection to many who were urging faults against them, and I confess that I had once the same prejudice. But I am free to say, that observation has fully convinced me that color in *Short Horns* is not a source of objection at all. I have several white cattle of the common breed. Among them are two white cows, with clear yellow skins, and they give milk of superior richness to any in the yard. I have a perfectly white ox and several spotted ones, and better animals were never yoked. Indeed, with milch cows, were I to choose at random among a herd for good milkers, and they should be of all colors, of equally good appearance otherwise, I would choose white rather than any other color for quantity and richness of milk. I have had several particular trials, and so far my white cows have excelled in those points. The prevailing color of the Short Horn is red and white spotted, roan, or white. Occasionally, but rarely, they are red altogether.

The many experiments that have been tried with their milk, and the amount of butter made in a given season, have, so far as facts are known, proved them, taken altogether, the best milkers of any cattle ever introduced into America; and even the half bloods of this breed possess an evident superiority over the native cows for dairy purposes. I went down last fall a mile below Utica to visit the cattle of a farmer who keeps a large herd of cows for the purpose of supplying that city with milk. He had gone partially into the rearing of Short Horns for that business, and showed me several three years old heifers, half blood, of this breed, which he said he could sell for fifty dollars each for family cows, while his best of the native kind would not bring over twenty-five. Here then is acknowledged superiority for that purpose; and in size and beauty they were quite as superior to the other cows in the yard, as in their milking properties.

There are abundant reasons why the "Improved Short Horns" should be better than other cattle. Some eighty years ago, the original of this breed existed on the river Tees in England, celebrated for the quantity and excellence of their milk and fattening properties, and went by the name of the "Teeswater cattle." They combined many excellent qualities, having large frames, well spread carcasses, were hardy in keeping, and of remarkable quiet dispositions. Among the many important agricultural improvements commenced about that time in England, was that of *improving* their cattle; and a number of spirited individuals commenced on the Teeswater, or Short Horn family, and so great was their success, that at a public cattle sale of Mr. Charles Colling's in 1810, his celebrated Improved Short Horn bull "Comet," brought 1000 guineas, (upwards of $4000,) at that time six years old. Other bulls at the same sale brought 50 to 365 guineas, and his cows from 35 to 400 guineas, as they excelled in form, pedigree, and excellence. They are now the prevailing breed of cattle over a great part of England where milking and fattening properties in cattle are required, and are rapidly taking the place of all other breeds on the good soils throughout the kingdom. They are considered as combining more good qualities than any other breed; and although comparatively few herds of high bred *improved* animals are to be found, yet the Short Horns, more or less, are now fast displacing all other breeds.

The ordinary farmer may inquire what is meant by *Improved* Short Horns? and why they are different from Short Horns generally? They differ in this: they are higher bred, that is, they have been bred *in and in* to the same blood, and crossed with animals of great excellence and purity of blood, until their defects have disappeared, and by scientific management have become the *beau ideal* of neat cattle, combining in one carcass all, or nearly all, the excellencies of their species. These of course are better and different animals, altogether excelling the common Short Horns as much as the best blood horses excel the common roadster; because the good qualities of the Short Horn family have been long conbined in them without retaining their defects. *Improved* Short Horns are now indeed comparatively scarce even in England, and bear very high prices. They are usually worth $100 to $2000 each there, and commonly sell from $150 to $1000 in the United States, according to the quality of the animal. Common Short Horns in either country can be obtained for half, and frequently less, the price of the improved animals. Bulls, however, are usually much cheaper than cows; frequently to be had at half their price. So that a neighborhood of ten or twelve farmers can combine and purchase an animal together, and in a few years grow into a high grade of Short Horns at an expense altogether trifling, compared with the immense benefit they would derive from the raising of such a valuable breed of cattle.

Prejudice may assail these fine animals, but it must be *prejudice* alone. If their color be objected to, no *valid* reason can be given in support of such objection. If their horns, the smallness and delicacy of which is one of the greatest improvements of their high breeding, are said to be too short and low, it may as well be said that their beef has *too little bone* in it, as in point of fact the horn is an actual incumbrance; and if there be only horn enough to give an appearance of grace and spirit to the animal, and they certainly have sufficient for that purpose, it is all that should be required. If it be said that they require too much good food to be profitably kept, I answer, that in proportion to their age, and the quantity of milk and beef they will yield, they will *subsist on less food* than *any* breed of cattle in America, the Devons excepted. It is true, they will not thrive on very poor land, with stinted pastures, and I will give a handsome premium to see any that will; but they will do as well as others even there; and with all farmers who have good lands as in the western and northern regions of New York, and in the western states generally, I venture to say that no race of animals can be found, which combine so much of beauty, excellence, fashion and profit in their cultivation, as the "Improved Short Horns."

As many of these valuable animals, excellent of their kind, are in the possession of a number of our enterprising and spirited fellow citizens in different parts of the United States, it would appear invidious to name individuals among them to the prejudice of others; yet they are sufficiently known in their several counties or states to be easily found; and from the high blood and fine animals now in America, may the whole race of neat cattle in our country be most thoroughly and beneficially improved.

The Holstein, Holderness, and DUTCH

Breeds of cattle are also found in some parts of our country, and combine some excellent qualities, with strong defects. They are originally mostly from one stock, are huge feeders, have large heavy carcasses, and are coarse boned, loose made animals, yet usually excellent for milk. But as a breed generally are not particularly desirable over our best native cattle. Partial herds, descended from these breeds, are now and then found of considerable excellence; yet they have too many and prominent negative qualities to engage the attention of scientific breeders in their cultivation.

The Alderneys

Are occasionaaly found in the United States. I have seen a few of them. They are good for milk—a little larger than a stout goat, and quite inferior shaped animals, of a pale red and white color. They can never obtain a footing in America, where beef and working cattle are so much in request.

I have also, in two or three instances, seen a few

Lancashire, Bakewell, or Long HORNS

In this country. But they do not in my opinion combine *enough* of good quality superior to our own *best* cattle to spread to any extent; and the occasional instances of

Galloway or Polled

Animals that are met with, like the last named, also fail to excite the attention of our farmers.

In conclusion, from an attentive observation of some years to the different breeds of cattle which exist in the United States, I have no hesitation in declaring, that the best and most perfect for all the combined purposes of the American farmer, in *my* opinion, is the Durham Short Horns.

ULMUS.

A Valuable Farm For Sale.

THE valuable FARM owned and occupied by Elias Beach, 4 miles west from the city and situated directly on the Erie Canal, containing 240 acres of good wheat and grass soil, well watered. with good house, barns, out houses, &c. Five thousand dollars will be required in cash, and the balance may remain on bond and mortgage for a term of years. Title indisputable. The price per acre may be learned on inquiring of JAMES H. WATTS, at No. 3 Exchange-street, Rochester, and the owner will at all times be ready to give further particulars on the premises. ap 18-tf

Black Sea Wheat.

You may now sow spring wheat, or as soon as it can well be got into the ground. Payson Williams, Esq. of Fitchburg, Mass. raised fifty-five bushels and three pecks of Black Sea Wheat on an acre. For raising this prodigious crop the land was ploughed fine and deep. On the 19th of April 2½ bushels of Black Sea Wheat were sown, harrowed in across the furrows, and rolled in. Mr. Williams states that "a wheat crop should not be attempted on our worn out soils, with less than sixteen cords of unfermented [or long] animal manure or twelve cords of fermented [or short] contributed to the preceding crop. It is believed that potatoes are the best preparatory crop. Let it be understood likewise that the tilth for wheat must be more fine and particular than for rye: sowing on 20 bushels of unleached wood ashes to the acre, soon after the wheat is up, will not only make it kernel better, but will check the ravages of the white maggot, which sometimes attacks its root. A further advantage of wheat may be found in its being the most proper for protecting the young and tender *grass* plants, which are designed to give a crop the year following."—*N. E. Farmer.*

Agricultural Museums.

Much interest has been excited, and much utility is likely to be derived, from the institution of agricultural museums; one on an extensive scale has been opened in Edinburgh by a Mr. Lawson, and several others exist in Great Britain. A mere catalogue of the names of the numerous and diversified productions of the wonderful globe we inhabit, could afford little interest; but in these museums short descriptions or notices respecting the properties of such as are most important are added, and the synopsis thus becomes useful. Mr. Lawson fitted up extensive apartments, and stocked them at great expense; they were first opened to the public in October, 1833; in the course of the season, the collection was inspected by upwards of two thousand individuals; it has since been greatly added to, possessing more than two thousand specimens of the various objects which interest the agriculturist, whether the produce of the soil, or the implements by which it is cultivated. Mr. L. has added a series of models; among these we notice in the catalogue "A shower machine for flower beds and fruit bushes, traps for vermin," &c.—*Littell's Museum.*

MARL.—It is recommended in the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, that marl be calcined before it is used; a hint for our Jersey farmers.

ITCH INSECT.—Drawings of the itch insect on a greatly magnified scale, have been laid before the French Institute. It has its forelegs strongly developed, while its hind quarters are comparatively feeble; it is thus enabled to burrow under the cuticle, and to make a road for itself as it proceeds.

Fruit Trees, Grape Vines, &c.

FIVE thousand Grafted Apple Trees, mostly of large size and thrifty growth, consisting of 20 or 30 of the most valuable kinds known. Also, an assortment of Peaches, Plums, Pears, Cherries, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, &c., and both native and foreign Grape Vines, from one to six years old.

Also, 5,000 White Italian Mulberry Trees, two years old.

All of which are for sale, either in small or large quantities, at low prices, by

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Rochester, April 11, 1835. ap 14

Wanted.

A PERSON well qualified to take charge of one of Andrew's Patent Shingle Mills. A person that can bring satisfactory testimonials of character and capability, will meet with a good situation, constant employment, and cash down. None need apply but those that are well acquainted with the management of circular saws. For further particulars inquire (if by letter, post paid,) of J. G. STOCKLEY, Allanburgh Mills, Thorold Post Office, Upper Canada. ap 11-6t

Fine Potatoes, Oats and Corn.

EARLY June, Early White Kidney, Black Kidney, Foxite, Mercer, Pinkeye, and Irish Cup, POTATOES; 50 bushels of superior ENGLISH OATS, and a quantity of choice, selected SEED CORN, of the best kinds, for sale at the Rochester Seed Store.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Rochester, April 11, 1835. ap 14

Robbins' Patent Planting MACHINE.

WITH this machine Corn, Beans, Peas, and all seeds of an oval shape can be planted with more system and correctness than can be done in the usual manner of planting with the hand and hoe.

One acre of ground can be planted, placing the seeds any given distance apart, from two or more inches, and rows two and a half feet between, in three hours time.

Machines can be had by applying to C. N. BEMENT, Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, Albany; BUSHROD BUCK, Lanesborough, Berkshire county, Mass.; and DANIEL I. BUCK, Lowville, Lewis county, agent and proprietor for making and vending said machines, at all of which places it is intended to keep a supply on hand.

Lowville March 25th, 1835. ap 14-tf

More New and Valuable Seeds.

JUST received at the "Rochester Seed Store" in addition to the former assortment, many choice kinds of seeds, including new White Italian Mulberry, Dyer's Madder, and Dale's New Hybrid Turnep. Also, a few quarts of the new and celebrated Skinless Oats, Bonavista Beans, Early Golden Sioux Corn, &c.; together with some hundred varieties of *Flower Seeds*, which will be put up in small papers at 6*d*. each, or 20 varieties for $1, and 100 varieties for $4. When the selection is left to the proprietors, care will be taken to select such as will form a pleasing assortment as to color, time of flowering, &c.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

A large and comprehensive Catalogue of the Establishment is just published, and will be furnished gratis on application. mar 19

Superior Seeds, Trees, &c.

Linnæan Garden and Nurseries, near New-York.

WM. PRINCE & SONS, offer to the public the most extensive collection of GARDEN, AGRICULTURAL, FLOWER, and TREE SEEDS that has ever existed in America, and their excellence is expressly guaranteed. Among these are *above* 100 *new varieties of Vegetables which have never before been offered for sale*, selected with great care from the finest collections of France, Italy, Germany, and England, and tested during the two past years in their own grounds, where they have been found to completely rival many of the old varieties. They have two species of Onion particularly suited to a northern climate on account of their early maturity, the Early Paris White, remarkable for its beautiful silvery appearance, and for attaining a large size the first season, being much earlier than any other white variety, and the Early Red Madeira, of excellent flavor and earliest of all onions. The Yellow Dutch also attains a large size the first season. The price of the first named sort is $1,50 per lb., of the second $1,25, and the third 87 cts.—Common Red Onion 75 cts., Large White $1,25—and 2800 lbs. are now ready for delivery. All other seeds will be supplied to Venders proportionably low, and at a liberal credit. Also, 2000 lbs. Mangold Wurzel, including 600 lbs. of the Golden Yellow and White varieties, which are found much preferable to the Red, on account of their surpassing it in saccharine matter; 30 bushels Italian Rye Grass, 50 bushels Pacey's Perennial do., 2500 lbs. Dutch White Clover seed, 2000 lbs. finest Florence Lucerne, 500 lbs. Trifolium incarnatum, &c. &c.

The collection of Fruit Trees, Flowering Shrubs, and Plants, covers near 50 acres *compactly planted*, and the nine Green Houses and Conservatories contain 30,000 plants in pots. Of the splendid Dahlia several thousand are ready for delivery, comprising all the choice variegated varieties, and as the stock of all these articles is the most extensive in the Union, they will be supplied at reduced rates. Orders sent *direct*, per mail will meet immediate attention. Priced Catalogues of Seeds, and of every class of Trees, Plants, &c. will be sent to all applicants, and wholesale priced lists of Seeds, &c. will be furnished when desired. *No payment will be required by us for any article that does not prove precisely as represented.* ap 4-3t

Monroe Horticultural Garden & NURSERY.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, *Monroe* co. N. Y. Sept. 13, 1834.

Mr. Hussey's Grain Cutter.

A MACHINE, invented and built by Mr. Hussey, of Ohio, has been used by the subscriber, in the town of Leicester, county of Livingston, during last harvest, to cut about fifty acres of wheat. The wheat cut with the Machine was of different growth, varying from 10 to 40 bushels the acre. The experiment has shown that it does the work equally well in large or small grain—and it is no obstruction to the machine, where the grain is badly lodged. It cuts and gathers lodged grain clean, except where it lies below the cutters, in which case it is passed over unmolested.

It neither pulls down nor leaves a straw where it passes along—but cuts all clean. The wheat, as it is cut, falls on a table attached to the machine, until sufficient has accumulated for a bundle, when it is slipped off without impeding the progress of the machine. It is capable of cutting about two acres per hour. One piece of wheat, containing five acres by measure, was timed. The machine was actually employed just two hours and seventeen minutes in cutting the wheat which was estimated at 30 bushels the acre. The machinery is simple, and not likely to get out of repair. It does the work well on rolling ground, and without much inconvenience. The common prejudices against new improvements, have uniformly vanished from men in relation to this machine, as soon as they had opportunity to see it in operation. It is believed that this machine, when known to the agricultural community, will be ranked among the most valuable improvements of the age.

The annexed certificate will show the favorable views of a number of gentlemen who have seen the machine in operation. The inventor has taken out Letters Patent, and has appointed the subscriber his agent for the state of New York, to build, vend and use his machine, and also to sell individual, town and county rights. Persons wishing to purchase machines, to be ready at the commencement of next harvest, may be accommodated if they apply soon to Benjamin W. Bills of Mount Morris, or the subscriber at Moscow. Applications for machines must be made by the last of April, or there will not be sufficient time to procure the materials and build the machines in time for next harvest. All communications relative to machines, or rights, addressed to the subscriber, at Moscow, Livingston county, will be promptly attended to.

JEREDIAH HORSFORD.

Moscow, 16th March, 1835.

CERTIFICATE.

We have seen Mr. Hussey's Machine for cutting grain by horse power, while it was in operation in the town of Leicester, in the county of Livingston, during last harvest. It cuts a swath about four feet wide, and moves at the rate of about four miles per hour, or as fast as horses can walk. It is drawn by two horses—is attended by one man, and requires a man or boy to drive the horses—gathers the grain cleaner than any other mode of harvesting we have ever seen, and leaves it in gavels ready for binding. The machinery is rather simple, and we think it worthy the attention of a wheat growing community.

JOHN H. JONES,	JESSE WADDAMS,
H. JONES, JR.	HEN. A. WILMERDING,
DAVID A. MILLER,	WM. LYMAN,
IRA HOLMES,	EPHRAIM CONE,
W. C. DWIGHT,	WALTER CHENEY,

E. ROGERS.

Leicester, Liv. co., 16th March, 1835. ap 11-4t